

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9109

UNCLAS LONDON 12998

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, UK
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: CAA LICENSES BCAL TO SERVE DALLAS;
WITHOUT CONCORDE

1. THE U. K. CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY (CAA) ANNOUNCED AUGUST 11 THAT IT HAD DECIDED TO ALLOW BRITISH CALEDONIAN TO SERVE THE DALLAS/FORT WORTH-LONDON ROUTE SEGMENT, REJECTING BRITISH AIRWAYS' APPLICATION FOR THE SAME ROUTE. ACCORDING TO A CAA PRESS RELEASE, THE DECISION WAS MADE (A) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE U.K. GOVERNMENT'S SPHERES OF INTEREST POLICY, IN THAT THE DALLAS CATCHMENT AREA OVERLAPS WITH THAT OF HOUSTON, WHICH BCAL ALREADY SERVES, (B) BECAUSE BCAL'S PROPOSAL WOULD BETTER SERVE THE NEEDS OF THE TRAVELING PUBLIC, SINCE ON CERTAIN DAYS BRITISH AIRWAYS WOULD HAVE GIVEN.

"SOME MEASURE OF PRIORITY" TO MEXICO CITY TRAFFIC, (C) BECAUSE BCAL'S COST ESTIMATES WERE MORE CONVINCING, AND (D) TO MOVE IN THE DIRECTION OF ENABLING BCAL, IN THE INTERESTS OF LONG-TERM PROFITABILITY, TO DIVERSIFY ITS PRESENT NETWORK, AT LEAST TO A SMALL EXTENT.

2. AT THE SAME TIME, THE CAA TURNED DOWN BOTH BCAL'S
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AND BA'S PROPOSALS TO OFFER CONCORDE SERVICE TO DALLAS/FORT WORTH VIA WASHINGTON. A BRITISH AIRWAYS SERVICE, IT SAID, WOULD "OPEN THE DOOR TO BRANIFF'S ARGUMENT FOR USING HEATHROW", WHILE ONE BY BCAL WOULD REQUIRE DOUBLE DESIGNATION AT WASHINGTON.

BREWSTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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